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City of Rocky Mount Receives National Awards for Achievement in Natural Gas Service

Rocky Mount, NC – Bert Kalisch, president and CEO of the American Public Gas Association (APGA), presented the City of Rocky Mount Energy Resources department with two national awards during the city council meeting on Monday, Sept. 28, 2015.

Energy Resources is the recipient of APGA's Safety Contest Award, which is given to utilities that demonstrate the lowest overall incidence rate for the last full calendar year. The winners of the Safety Contest highlight the dedication of APGA members to maintaining the highest safety standards within their system, their communities, and in the natural gas industry.

The department was also presented with the Gold designation award in APGA's prestigious System Operation Achievement Recognition (SOAR) program.

SOAR is given to natural gas utilities that demonstrate excellence in the four operational areas of worker safety, workforce development, system integrity, and system improvement.

SOAR applications were reviewed by a team of public natural gas utility peers from the APGA Operations and Safety Committee and were awarded a rating based on total cumulative points achieved from the four program criteria areas. A Bronze designation is awarded if the utility scores 80-89 percent of the possible points, Silver for 90-96 percent of the possible points, and Gold for 97-100 percent of the possible points.

"We were proud to receive the Silver designation last year in the SOAR Program's inaugural year," said Rich Worsinger, director of Energy Resources. "This year, due to our employees' hard work and dedication to safety, we are honored to be able to receive the Gold designation for 2015. Rocky Mount is one of only four natural gas providers in the country to win the Gold designation in the SOAR program."

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